

United States Attorney District of Maryland

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CLINTON MAN SENTENCED TO 4 YEARS IN PRISON FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

GREENBELT, Maryland - Horace Brown, age 38, of Clinton, Maryland was sentenced today to 4 years in prison followed to 2 years of supervised release for possession of child pornography, announced United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein.

U.S. District Judge Peter J. Messitte also ordered Brown to participate in sex offender treatment, to not have unsupervised contact with minors, to register under Maryland's sex offender registry, and to disclose his conviction to any employers. Brown is also barred from using a computer or accessing the internet during his supervised release, unless supervised by the United States Probation Office.

According to the statement of facts provided to the court on April 19, 2006 as part of the plea agreement, an investigation conducted by the Attorney General's offices of New Jersey and New York, as well as the Pennsylvania State Police, revealed that Brown uploaded child pornography to an undercover law enforcement website in February 2002. The undercover website was patterned after a website with the same name that had been dismantled by law enforcement after it was discovered that the original website had contained images of child pornography. Undercover officers sent E-mails to previous paid subscribers of the website, including Brown, advising them that the website had been shut down due to technical and financial problems and offering a free subscription to anyone who provided pornographic images to the site in an effort to rebuild it. Brown was a subscriber to an E-mail account that transmitted three images of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct to the undercover website.

On February 13, 2003, FBI agents interviewed Brown at his residence. Brown admitted that he had been a paying customer of the child pornography website and stored child pornography images on CD-ROMS which he created. A forensic review of CD-ROMS and his computer seized from his residence revealed that Brown possessed numerous child pornography images.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein praised the investigative work performed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Rosenstein also thanked Assistant U.S. Attorney James M. Trusty, who prosecuted the case.